



*Achieving excellence through
the pursuit of good*

Bathwick St. Mary Church School

01225 465654

office@bsm.bwmat.org

www.bathwickstmary.org

Headteacher: Mr. Kevin Purkiss



Newsletter Six: February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As spring approaches, we reflect on the first two terms of this academic year at Bathwick St. Mary. In September, we shared the letter from the Chair of BWMAT where it was recognised, **'The outcomes attained by your children reflect your unwavering commitment to excellence and your relentless pursuit of high standards'**. Following the Autumn term progress and attainment assessments in the core areas of learning, we are again pleased to see a very strong set of academic outcomes across all year groups. After one third of the academic year, we are on course to meet the challenging targets set across the curriculum.

In addition to our rigorous academic curriculum, there have been plenty of other wonderful learning opportunities celebrated, including the Year 6 Bath wide Gymnastics competition at the end of January. The team – Charlotte, Emily, George, Jacob, Lata, Leo, Lottie, Millie, Milly and Sophie performed their routines brilliantly and were a credit to the school.



Thank you - Education Sunday

Last Sunday we celebrated Education Sunday at St. Mary's Church. Thirty children took part in the service and several others came to support. We enjoyed sharing a little of our learning this year so far with members of the congregation. Thank you to all those children and families who supported the event and well done to all children who presented so confidently!

SAFEGUARDING – PHOTOGRAPHS ON SITE

A polite reminder that no photographs or videos should be taken on the school site without permission from the Headteacher or another senior member of staff. Parents and Carers attending Friday Collective Worship are permitted to take a photo or video of their child receiving an award, but this should not be put online or shared via social media. Thank you for your support.

Welcome to new children

A very warm welcome to:

- Charlie in Year 3
- Sofia, Aura and Kexin in Year 5

We hope you will be very happy here!

Christian Value Champions for the Autumn Term

Every long term, one child in each class is nominated by their peers for living out our Christian Values. One child is declared the overall champion for each value. I am pleased to announce our champions for Autumn Term:

- **Respect:** Towako, Year 4
- **Joyfulness:** Victoria, Year 2
- **Fairness:** Luke, Year 5
- **Love:** Riley, Year 1
- **Forgiveness:** Blanche, Year 3
- **Perseverance:** Deeda, Year R

Well done to all our children who regularly demonstrate these important Christian Values in their daily lives!

Safer Routes to School Update

Thank you to everyone who responded to the safer routes to school parent survey. These are the main headlines from both the parent and pupil surveys:

- 72% of pupils/families walk to school.
- 6% of pupils usually cycle however 34% of pupils said they would like to cycle to school.
- 84% of parent responses said that they would like to walk to school more often.

Comments about safety when travelling to school included wanting:

- Fewer cars on Darlington Road
- Better parking
- A pedestrian crossing on Warminster Road

28% of the parents who responded to the survey said they felt unsafe travelling to school. This is a concerning statistic and is something that the working party would like to work towards improving through ensuring greater awareness of safer travel in both pupils and parents.

If you would like to join the working party, then please do contact Mrs Elliott. We are particularly looking for **drivers** who may be able to give the working party a balanced perspective on the issues surrounding driving to school as well as walking or cycling.



'Dare to be Different' day

We celebrate the fact we are all different and yet all valued and special individuals. The diversity across our school is one of the things that makes us special – diversity of culture, language, religion and so on. On Friday 9th February, we are inviting all children to 'Dare to be different' in their appearance. We look forward to seeing their creativity! There

will be red buckets in the playground for any donations which will go directly to the PTA Project Playground.

Parent Consultation Evenings (PCEs)

Thank you to those who attended Monday's PCEs. There are still spaces to book for tomorrow's PCE on Thursday 8th February from 3.30-6.00. You can book via [School Cloud](#).

Do you want to learn more about your child's mental health and well-being?

Please find details below for a FREE emotional health and well-being webinar that school nurses are holding on 8th February from 13:00-14:00 for parents/carers. If you would like to attend the sessions, [please click here](#) to sign up.

Pupil premium funding in B&NES

Did you know you may qualify your our school for £1,385 worth of **Pupil Premium Funding** if you are entitled to benefit related free school meals?

If you think you may be entitled, check online at www.bathnes.gov.uk and search 'free school meals' to see eligible benefits. Apply online at <https://beta.bathnes.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> or you can contact The Free School Meal Team at freeschoolmeals@bathnes.gov.uk or on 01225 394317 to check your entitlement (if you leave a message they will call you back). You can still apply for benefit related free school meals while receiving universal infant free school meals. In addition, school provides a £50 voucher towards uniform should you successfully apply.



World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character!

We are celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 7th March**. Thank you to Miss. Bowman and Mrs. Turner who have organised

several exciting events coming up around World Book Day. The **Scholastic Book Fair** will take place on Thursday 14th, Friday 15th and Monday 18th March. More details will follow. All books sold earn rewards for the school, enabling us to buy new books. We look forward to seeing you there!

Ogden Trust Physics Competition Winners

Congratulations to Allegra (Yr3) Benjamin (Yr2) and Izzy (Yr1) for being the winners of the Christmas Physics photography competition. The judges were impressed at their precision and dedication, especially when code writing! They were presented with their certificates and gift token in Celebration Collective Worship. Congratulations!



A few club spaces left for Term 4

Get Sported have a few spaces available for the Dodgeball on Thursdays and Football on Fridays – if you are interested please book below:

[Dodgeball, Years 3-6, Thursday 4.30-5.30](#)

[Football, Years 4-6, Friday end of school day to 4.30](#)

Getting to school on time...

A polite reminder that the school gates are open from 8.40 a.m. and **all children should be lining up ready to start lessons promptly at 8.50 a.m.** We seek to provide the best education possible but this is hampered when children arrive too late. Please make every effort to arrive for 8.50 a.m. Children arriving much after this time will need to go via the main office doors as registers will close shortly afterwards. Please do not go and knock on classroom doors as this disturbs the learning of other children. Thank you for your support in getting your children to school on time.

100 missed hours of learning...

EVERY CLASS had some children with unauthorised absence in January – a total of 40 sessions lost which equates to over 100 hours of missed learning. Children make progress in their learning when they know more, remember more and are able to do more. Our carefully sequenced curriculum is built around this pedagogy – and this is one of the key reasons why school attendance matters so much. **Please ensure your child is only missing school when absolutely necessary.** Thank you to the many parents & carers who already ensure this every day.

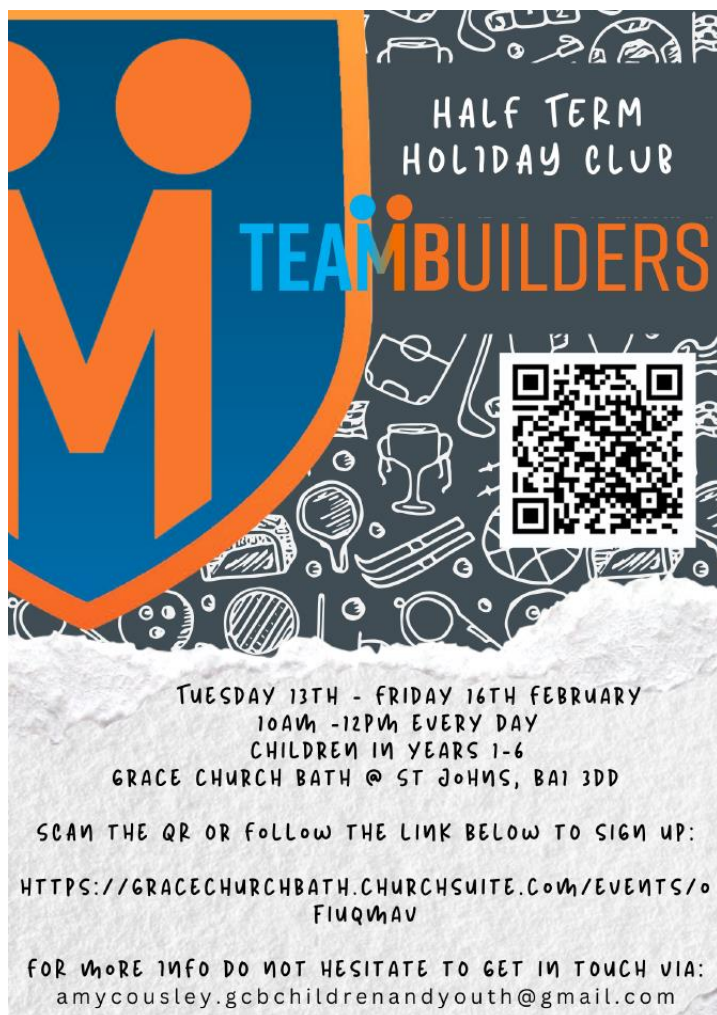
Important safety notice

We have children in school who have **life-threatening allergies**. We take all our children's safety extremely seriously and as such **the following foods and foods containing these ingredients are banned from the school site** (this includes bringing snacks after school for your children or during clubs time):

- ⊘ **Sesame seeds and food containing sesame** (sesame can be found on or in a variety of food, including on rolls, bread, oil, hummus)
- ⊘ **Nuts and food containing nuts**
 - ✗ All 'Tree nuts' - this includes cashew, hazelnuts, almonds, walnuts, pistachio, macadamia, pecan and Brazil nuts
 - ✗ Peanuts and chestnuts
 - ✗ Pine nuts and Pesto

Some food packing uses wording such as, 'This product has been produced in a factory that handles nuts and/or sesame' or 'May contain nuts and/or sesame'. We only ban foods that state nuts or sesame in the ingredient list.

You may also be interested in...



TEAMBUILDERS

HALF TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

TUESDAY 13TH - FRIDAY 16TH FEBRUARY
10AM - 12PM EVERY DAY
CHILDREN IN YEARS 1-6
GRACE CHURCH BATH @ ST JOHNS, BAI 3DD

SCAN THE QR OR FOLLOW THE LINK BELOW TO SIGN UP:
[HTTPS://GRACECHURCHBATH.CHURCHSUITE.COM/EVENTS/FIUQMVAV](https://gracechurchbath.churchsuite.com/events/fiuqmvav)

FOR MORE INFO DO NOT HESITATE TO GET IN TOUCH VIA:
amycousley.gbcchildrenandyouth@gmail.com

And finally...

Wishing all our children and families a lovely half term next week. There are a wide number of clubs and activities available below.

Please do come in for PCEs tomorrow – there is also an opportunity for parents and carers to speak with our Governors who will be available throughout the evening.

With best wishes,

Kevin Purkiss, Headteacher

Term 3 Dates for the Diary

February 2024

7	Year 3 Trip to Bristol Museum OWL Year 4
8	Bath Primary Swimming Gala Whole School 'Voices for Life' Singing Workshop PCEs: 3.30-6.00
9	PTA 'Dare to be different' Day - Non-uniform for PTA donations

Term 4 Dates for the Diary

21	OWL Year 3
23	Year 3 PTA Cake Sale
28	OWL Year 2

March 2024

5	B&NES Netball Cup Match @ Saltford Primary
6	OWL Year 1
7	World Book Day
8	Y2 trip to Mr B's Reading Emporium of Delights PTA Discos (TBC)
11	11-15 Science Week – information to follow
13	OWL Year R
14	Book Fair (and Friday 15 th and Monday 18 th)
18	Y2 to Assembly Rooms 'Hear My Voice' Singing Festival
19	Class Photos Day
20	Choir to Bridgcare Residential – Easter Service OWL Year 6 (TBC)
26	Dance Umbrella @ The Forum
28	Easter Service, St. Mary's Church, 1.30 p.m.

Save the date(s)

In addition to the dates above, here are some key events in the year ahead:

- 24th – 26th **April**, Year 5 to Deanfield
- 3rd - 7th **June**, Year 6 to Isle of Wight
- 19th - 21st **June**, Year 4 to Magdalen Farm
- 12th **July** – Year 6 Show (evening)
- Thursday 18th **July**, Leavers' Service, 1.30 pm.

Please see below for the 2023/2024 Calendar AND the new **2024/2025 Bathwick St. Mary Calendar** on the final page. A reminder – do not book ANY holiday during term time. Thank you!

West of England Bus Fares and 'Birthday Bus'

There are currently two bus fares initiatives, a capped fixed price of £2 for an adult single and a reduced single fare of £1 for children aged 5-15, with most bus public services across the West of England, although it excludes special school and college buses. This is in place until the end of March 2025, click [travelwest](#) for more details.

There is also a 'Birthday Bus' initiative, where you can apply for free bus travel across the West of England, if you live within the West of England Mayoral Combined Authority area or in North Somerset. It's valid for the whole calendar month of your birthday and available to all ages, so staff and students can take advantage of the scheme.

BRILLIANTLY ENGINEERED

A celebration of science, technology, engineering & maths at BRLSI
24th February - 27th February 2024

Learn how to skewer a balloon without popping it, take part in a rapid prototyping workshop and discover the life of a modern engineer at the BRLSI 'Brilliantly Engineered' exhibition.

After a successful 2023 exhibition, local engineering companies return to Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution in February 2024 to showcase the amazing technology and engineering strength emanating from the South West.

Brilliantly Engineered.

Saturday 24th February – Tuesday 27th February. 10am-4pm daily. Free. Open to all.

www.brlsi.org/whatson/brilliantly-engineered

A range of exhibitors including BMT, Buro Happold, Cross Engineering, Designability, Rocketmakers, TechSpark, The University of Bath & Whitley & Co will be appearing at Brilliantly Engineered.

HALF-TERM HOLIDAY CLUB

Tues 13th, Wed 14th & Thurs 15th February
Ages 4-12
9:00am - 4:00pm

£17.50 per day
or
£45 for all three days

Bathampton Primary School
1896 Tynning Rd
Bathampton
BA2 6TQ

To book please visit
Bookwhen.com/nextgenerationcoaching

N.G.C
NEXT GENERATION COACHING

Next Generation Coaching @nextgcoaching nextgcoaching@gmail.com

IT'S NOT BROKEN, TAKE IT APART AND FIX IT

BRILLIANTLY ENGINEERED

Bath Royal Literary & Scientific Institution
1824-2024
FEB 24-27. 10-4pm
16 Queen Square, BA1 2HN
brlsi.org

Kids 11 & Under Eat for Free

12th-16th February
11:30am-1:30pm

Includes a sandwich or beans on toast; with crisps, a piece of fruit & a drink

Come any day - or every day and enjoy our child friendly play area.

Cafe @ the Centre
Manvers Street Baptist Church
BA1 1JW

Victoria Art Gallery Free half-term activity

Ladybird Ladybird

Tuesday 13 to Friday 16 February
10.30am - 2.00pm

Make a ladybird with moving wings and learn about the ladybird life cycle.



Half-term is nearly here - pop into the Victoria Art Gallery for a free family creative activity.

We have activity trails and colouring in sheets for exploring the exhibition too.



Bath & North East Somerset Council
Improving People's Lives

victoriagal.org.uk/events

“Enabling the Less Abled” at Bath Medical Museum

February 10th to 19th. (1 Hetling Court . BA1 1SH. opposite Thermae Bath Spa and the Cross Bath.) Open everyday between 12pm and 4pm.

Lots of activities for families. **Free.**

Bath Medical Museum has teamed up with ‘Designability’ and researchers at the University of Bath to mount a small but very significant and very revealing exhibition demonstrating the importance of creating supportive environments and aids to foster ‘Wellbeing’ and ‘Wellness’ for everyone. There will be a chance to see ‘Wizzibug’ a fun, powered wheelchair for very young disabled children as well as artificial joints provided by a former Professor of Bio mechanics and a wide variety of aids that provide ingenious solutions to everyday problems. There will be lots of free fun activities for families. Please go to the Bath Medical Museum website for more details.



Bath & North East Somerset

**Violence
Reduction
Partnership**

Knife Crime Awareness Event for Parents and Carers

The B&NES Violence Reduction Partnership (VRP) are running a series of knife crime awareness events throughout February and March.

These events will take place in schools across the area. The first event will be held at Writhlington School on February 22nd (17.30 to 19.30), followed by Hayesfield Girls School on February 29th (18.00 to 20.00) and Cameley CEVC Primary School on March 18th (18.00 to 20.00).

The events are aimed at parents and carers who would like to know more about the dangers of knife crime or are concerned that their children are at risk. They aim to increase awareness of key issues surrounding knife crime, empowering you and your children to make informed and positive decisions to stay safe.

You will have the opportunity to hear from guest speakers with lived experience who have been personally affected by knife crime. There will also be a presentation by Street Doctors followed by a panel discussion with the opportunity to ask questions.

**For queries, please email VRU_Events@bathnes.gov.uk
Or book your ticket now on Eventbrite:**

Writhlington School, 22nd February, 17.30 to 19.30

<https://KnifeCrimeAwareEventWrithlington.eventbrite.co.uk>

Hayesfield Girls School, 29th February, 18.00 to 20.00

<https://KnifeCrimeAwareHayesfield.eventbrite.co.uk>

Cameley Primary School, 18th March, 18.00 to 20.00

<https://KnifeCrimeAwarenessCameley.eventbrite.co.uk>

Bath & North Somerset VRP

<https://bcssp.bathnes.gov.uk/vru>



**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**

Bath & North East Somerset
Community Safety & Empowering Partnership

Improving People's Lives

The Roman Baths Drop-in Activity – February 2024

Little Britannia

Monday 12 February – Friday 16 February
10am – 12.30pm & 1.30pm – 4pm



Find out what childhood was like in Roman times!
Did Roman children go to school and what did they play with?
Children must be accompanied by an adult.
Included in Roman Baths admission. Book at romanbaths.co.uk.

**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**

Improving People's Lives

**THE
ROMAN
BATHS
BATH**

NEW! Starter String Group @Hayesfield Bath

Come and learn violin, viola, cello or
double bass
with your friends at low cost!

Who: Key Stage 2 complete beginners

Where: Hayesfield School, Bath

When: Wednesdays 5.45- 6.45pm

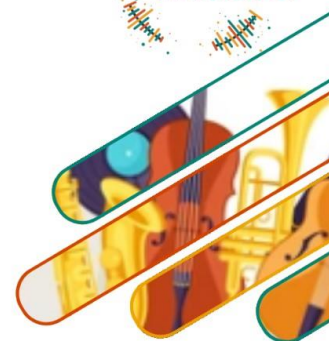
Start Date: 21st February

Cost: £41.50 per double term
Free for pupil premium

Instrument hire also available

To book a space:
<https://www.wema.org.uk/register>

For more information: 01454 863147 | music@wema.org.uk



Sponsored string music funding by
Bath & North East Somerset Council
ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND

WEST OF ENGLAND
MUSIC AND ARTS

YOUTH MUSIC FESTIVAL 2024

UP TO AGE 18
ANY MUSICAL STYLE
GROUPS OF 2 OR MORE MUSICIANS
TRINITY ACADEMY, BRISTOL BS7 9BY

TO APPLY SCAN QR CODE

APRIL 27th/ 28th

FREE



Supported using public funding by




ARTS COUNCIL ENGLAND



Do you have a child starting school September 2024?
Want to attend a class specifically aimed at supporting their transition to school?
Tiny Minds pre-school classes could be perfect for you and your little one!
Classes starting in March!



Classes available in Batheaston (Monday 1-2 pm) and Corsham (Tuesday 1-2 pm)
Grab a coffee and meet some new parents.
Let your child learn, play, explore with an experienced teacher.
Email Claire at tinyminds23@gmail.com to find out more and express your interest.




2024

BATH

JUNIOR SCHOOLS' TABLE TENNIS TOURNAMENT FOR YEARS 4-6

SATURDAY 24TH FEBRUARY
YEARS 4-5: 09.00-10.30
YEAR 6: 10.15-12.30
@ KING EDWARD'S JUNIOR SCHOOL,
NORTH ROAD, BATH BA2 6JA
Free refreshments available

Parents must accompany their child throughout the event.
Children must wear dark clothing and bring their own bat.

Book today to avoid disappointment

REGISTER HERE
If you do not have a Google account, please send your child's name, school and their parent to the following email address: brouse@kjs.bathnes.sch.uk



ROYAL HIGH SCHOOL BATH
G D S T

Easter Discovery Day

Saturday 16 March
10am-12.30pm

Royal High Bath
Prep School
Weston Park East
BA1 2UZ

Free for boys and girls
ages 6-11
Sign up today




Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2023-2024

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME

AUGUST 2023						SEPTEMBER 2023						OCTOBER 2023						
M		7	14	21	28	M		4	11	18	25	M		2	9	16	23	30
T	1	8	15	22	29	T		5	12	19	26	T		3	10	17	24	31
W	2	9	16	23	30	W		6	13	20	27	W		4	11	18	25	
TH	3	10	17	24	31	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		5	12	19	26	
F	4	11	18	25		F	1	8	15	22	29	F		6	13	20	27	
S	5	12	19	26		S	2	9	16	23	30	S		7	14	21	28	
SU	6	13	20	27		SU	3	10	17	24		SU	1	8	15	22	29	
NOVEMBER 2023						DECEMBER 2023						JANUARY 2024						
M		6	13	20	27	M		4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28	T		5	12	19	26	T		2	9	16	23	30
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	31
TH	2	9	16	23	30	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		4	11	18	25	
F	3	10	17	24		F	1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12	19	26	
S	4	11	18	25		S	2	9	16	23	30	S		6	13	20	27	
SU	5	12	19	26		SU	3	10	17	24	31	SU	1	7	14	21	28	
FEBRUARY 2024						MARCH 2024						APRIL 2024						
M		5	12	19	26	M		4	11	18	25	M		1	8	15	22	29
T		6	13	20	27	T		5	12	19	26	T		2	9	16	23	30
W		7	14	21	28	W		6	13	20	27	W		3	10	17	24	
TH	1	8	15	22	29	TH		7	14	21	28	TH		4	11	18	25	
F	2	9	16	23		F	1	8	15	22	29	F		5	12	19	26	
S	3	10	17	24		S	2	9	16	23	30	S	1	6	13	20	27	
SU	4	11	18	25		SU	3	10	17	24	31	SU	2	7	14	21	28	
MAY 2024						JUNE 2024						JULY 2024						
M		6	13	20	27	M		3	10	17	24			1	8	15	22	29
T		7	14	21	28	T		4	11	18	25			2	9	16	23	30
W	1	8	15	22	29	W		5	12	19	26			3	10	17	24	31
TH	2	9	16	23	30	TH		6	13	20	27			4	11	18	25	
F	3	10	17	24	31	F		7	14	21	28			5	12	19	26	
S	4	11	18	25		S	1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27	
SU	5	12	19	26		SU	2	9	16	23	30			7	14	21	28	

School Term Dates:	
Holiday Dates:	(Children not in school)
Inset Days:	(Children not in school)
Bank holidays:	(Children not in school)

The 24/25 academic year begins on Monday 02 September 2024.

Bathwick St. Mary School Term and Holiday Dates – 2024-2025

NO HOLIDAYS CAN BE TAKEN IN TERM TIME

AUGUST 2024						SEPTEMBER 2024						OCTOBER 2024						
M			5	12	19	26	M	2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28
T			6	13	20	27	T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29
W			7	14	21	28	W	4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30
TH		1	8	15	22	29	TH	5	12	19	26		TH	3	10	17	24	31
F		2	9	16	23	30	F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25	
S		3	10	17	24	31	S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26	
SU		4	11	18	25	1	SU	8	15	22	29		SU	6	13	20	27	
NOVEMBER 2024						DECEMBER 2024						JANUARY 2025						
M		4	11	18	25		M	2	9	16	23	30	M		6	13	20	27
T		5	12	19	26		T	3	10	17	24	31	T		7	14	21	28
W		6	13	20	27		W	4	11	18	25		W	1	8	15	22	29
TH		7	14	21	28		TH	5	12	19	26		TH	2	9	16	23	30
F	1	8	15	22	29		F	6	13	20	27		F	3	10	17	24	31
S	2	9	16	23	30		S	7	14	21	28		S	4	11	18	25	
SU	3	10	17	24	1		SU	8	15	22	29		SU	5	12	19	26	
FEBRUARY 2025						MARCH 2025						APRIL 2025						
M		3	10	17	24		M	3	10	17	24	31	M		7	14	21	28
T		4	11	18	25		T	4	11	18	25		T	1	8	15	22	29
W		5	12	19	26		W	5	12	19	26		W	2	9	16	23	30
TH		6	13	20	27		TH	6	13	20	27		TH	3	10	17	24	
F		7	14	21	28		F	7	14	21	28		F	4	11	18	25	
S	1	8	15	22	1		S	8	15	22	29		S	5	12	19	26	
SU	2	9	16	23	2		SU	9	16	23	30		SU	6	13	20	27	
MAY 2025						JUNE 2025						JULY 2025						
M		5	12	19	26		M	2	9	16	23	30	M		7	14	21	28
T		6	13	20	27		T	3	10	17	24		T	1	8	15	22	29
W		7	14	21	28		W	4	11	18	25		W	2	9	16	23	30
TH	1	8	15	22	29		TH	5	12	19	26		TH	3	10	17	24	31
F	2	9	16	23	30		F	6	13	20	27		F	4	11	18	25	1
S	3	10	17	24	31		S	7	14	21	28		S	5	12	19	26	2
SU	4	11	18	25	1		SU	8	15	22	29		SU	6	13	20	27	3

School Term Dates:		
Holiday Dates:		(Children not in school)
Inset Days:		(Children not in school)
Bank holidays:		(Children not in school)

The 25/26 academic year begins on Monday 1st September 2025.